

# Maharishi Valmiki

October 21, 2021

**In news**– The Prime Minister has paid tributes to Maharishi Valmiki on the occasion of Valmiki Jayanti.

## A brief note on Maharishi Valmiki-

- Valmiki Jayanti is also known as **Pragat Diwas**.
- It is **celebrated every year on the full moon day (15th day) of Shukla Paksha** in the Ashwin month, as per the Hindu calendar.
- It's said that **Maharishi Valmiki was born on Ashwin Purnima** as per the Hindu lunar calendar.
- Valmiki was born as Agni Sharma to a Brahmin named Pracheta (also known as Sumali) of Bhrigu gotra.
- Maharishi Valmiki is **also called the Adi Kavi or the first poet in the Sanskrit language**.
- He is also responsible for **writing the first-ever Sanskrit shlokas**.
- It is believed that Maharishi Valmiki, who **lived in Treta Yug, learned the story of Lord Rama from Narad Muni, and under his guidance, he wrote the epic Ramayana**.
- The Ramayana, originally written by Valmiki, consists of 24,000 shlokas and seven cantos (kandas).
- He is also believed to be the author of **Yoga Vasistha**, a text that elaborates on a range of philosophical issues.
- Vishnudharmottara Purana says that Valmiki reincarnated as Tulsidas, who composed the Ramcharitamanas, which was the Awadhi-Hindi version of the Ramayana.